



DEPARTMENT OF  
**ECOLOGY**  
State of Washington

## **Public Participation Plan**

### **Port of Longview TPH Site 10 Port Way, Longview, WA**

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*Facility Site ID: 42978181*

*Cleanup Site ID: 9152*

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## Publication and Contact Information

This plan is available on the Department of Ecology's website at:

<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/publications/1809125.html>

For more information contact:

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*To request ADA accommodation including materials in a format for the visually impaired, call Ecology at 360-407-6300 or visit <https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility>. People with impaired hearing may call Washington Relay Service at 711. People with speech disability may call TTY at 877-833-6341.*

**Public Participation Plan**

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**Port of Longview TPH Site**

Toxics Cleanup Program  
Southwest Region  
Washington State Department of Ecology  
Olympia, Washington

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## **Public Involvement in Contamination Cleanup**

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) developed this public participation plan (plan) in cooperation with the Port of Longview (Port), Chevron Environmental Management Company on behalf of Chevron U.S.A. Inc. a Delaware Corporation (CEMC), and Georgia-Pacific LLC (Georgia-Pacific), the parties responsible for cleanup costs. The purpose of the plan is to promote meaningful community involvement during cleanup.

The plan describes ways Ecology will inform the public about contamination investigations and cleanup options throughout the cleanup process. Ecology encourages the public to learn about and get involved in decision-making opportunities. This plan identifies how and when the public can get involved during different stages of the investigation and cleanup of contamination.

This plan is for the Agreed Order #DE-15907 for the Port of Longview TPH site.

### **Site Contacts**

To be included in the site record, comments about the cleanup process must be submitted during comment periods. Questions and informal comments or information about the site's history are welcome anytime.

#### **Ecology**

Southwest Regional Office  
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## Public Participation Grants

Grants may be available to neighborhood committees, non-profits, and other groups interested in the site. For contaminated sites, these funds can be used to:

- Hire an expert to help interpret technical information<sup>1</sup>
- Conduct activities that enhance the public's understanding of, and participation in, the cleanup process

For more information about public participation grants, please contact Lynn Gooding at 360-407-6062 or [lynn.gooding@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:lynn.gooding@ecy.wa.gov). You may also visit the [Public Participation Grant website](#).<sup>2</sup>

## Washington's Cleanup Laws

Ecology uses the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) and accompanying regulations for cleanup activities.

This plan is required under MTCA, a law that passed in 1989. MTCA provides guidelines for contaminated site cleanup in Washington State and sets standards to ensure the cleanup protects human health and the environment.

### Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA)

MTCA began as a grassroots citizen's initiative in 1988, and started the process of systematically cleaning up contaminated sites in Washington. Under MTCA, a current or past property owner or operator may be held responsible for cleaning up contamination on, or coming from, their property to standards that are safe for human health and the environment.

Ecology enacts MTCA and oversees cleanups in the state and issues regulations and guidance governing those cleanups. The regulations are found in [Chapter 173-340 Washington Administrative Code \(WAC\)](#).<sup>3</sup> Ecology investigates reports of property contamination, and if the contamination is seen as a significant threat to human health or the environment, the contaminated property is placed on the Hazardous Sites List, and the cleanup process begins.

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<sup>1</sup> Ecology currently does not have a citizen technical advisor for providing technical assistance to citizens on issues related to the investigation and cleanup of the site.



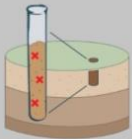


<sup>2</sup> [ecology.wa.gov/About-us/How-we-operate/Grants-loans/Find-a-grant-or-loan/Public-participation-grants](http://ecology.wa.gov/About-us/How-we-operate/Grants-loans/Find-a-grant-or-loan/Public-participation-grants)

<sup>3</sup> <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/publications/9406.pdf>

Public participation is an important part of cleanup under the MTCA process. Participation needs are assessed at each cleanup site according to the level of public interest and the degree of risk posed by the contamination. Individuals who live near the site, community groups, businesses, government, other organizations, and interested parties have the opportunity to get involved by commenting on the cleanup process.

Under MTCA, the cleanup process generally includes five phases. Each phase includes an opportunity for the public to review and comment on cleanup documents.

## Steps in Washington's Cleanup Process

 <p><b>Interim Action</b></p>		<p>If contaminants pose an immediate risk to people or the environment, action can be taken at any point in the cleanup process to reduce the risk. Interim actions may also be used to progress cleanup when only a brief opportunity is available.</p>
 <p><b>Remedial Investigation (RI)</b></p>		<p>Environmental investigation to identify the nature, extent, and magnitude of pollution at a site, and how people, plants, and animals may be exposed to the pollution.</p>
 <p><b>Feasibility Study (FS)</b></p>		<p>Uses information gathered during the Remedial Investigation to develop cleanup alternatives, and then evaluates them through an environmental benefit vs. cost analysis. This process determines a preferred alternative.</p>
 <p><b>Cleanup Action Plan (CAP)</b></p>		<p>Ecology identifies a cleanup plan based on information in the RI/FS and public input. The CAP includes cleanup standards, a schedule for design and construction work, and requirements for monitoring, operation, and maintenance.</p>
<p><b>Cleanup &amp; Monitoring</b></p>		<p>The CAP is used to clean up the site. After construction is complete, monitoring occurs. Environmental covenants prohibit or restrict activities that would expose any remaining contamination or adversely affect the cleanup.</p>

 Opportunities for public comment

Figure 1. Steps in Washington's Cleanup Process

## State Environmental Policy Act

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) is followed during review and development of interim actions and cleanup plans.

## Site History

### Land use

The site is located in Longview, Washington, on a portion of the Port of Longview property zoned as Heavy Industrial. It is bordered by the Columbia River, the Lewis and Clark Bridge, an active lumber facility, and an active bulk fuel facility. The Port and BNSF Railway have active rail lines within and across the site. Currently, the Port uses shipping berths for port operations and several buildings for the storage of vehicles and heavy machinery.

### How the site became contaminated

Practices associated with the handling of petroleum and leaks from storage tanks and underground pipelines have contaminated soil and groundwater. More recently, in 2016, approximately 5 gallons of petroleum leaked from pipelines under the shipping berths.

### Contamination

Contaminants in soil and groundwater that have been identified at this time include:

- Total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH) in the gasoline and diesel carbon ranges.
- Volatile organic compounds (VOCs), such as BTEX (benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylene)
- Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs)

After long-term exposure, these chemicals can be harmful to the health of people and the environment.

### Cleanup plans

The following Potentially Liable Persons (PLPs) that are signing the Agreed Order to do the work are current or past facility owners or operators of the Site and under MTCA are jointly and severally responsible for the cleanup:

- The Port of Longview, which is an owner or operator of the site.
- Chevron Environmental Management Company on behalf of Chevron U.S.A. Inc., a Delaware Corporation (CEMC), which is a former owner or operator of the site.
- Georgia Pacific LLC, which is a former owner and operator of the site.

The draft Agreed Order requires the PLPs to complete an Interim Action, a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) and develop a draft Cleanup Action Plan (DCAP).

The first step in the Interim Action work plan is to remove exposed pipelines that are located under two shipping berths. This work will reduce the risk of additional releases of petroleum product to soil and water. After the comment period ends, Ecology will respond to comments in a responsiveness summary. We will then finalize the interim action work plan.

The RI, FS, and DCAP reports will describe:

- The full nature and extent of the pollution on the site.
- The risk to human health and the environment.
- Cleanup method alternatives.
- The cleanup action plan.

As cleanup moves forward, we will invite the public to comment on the RI/FS, and DCAP reports.

## **Area community**

The site is located at the Port of Longview in a predominately industrial and commercial area. According to the federal Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) EJScreen Tool, the city of Longview has a large population of Spanish speakers. It is important for Ecology to incorporate cultural and linguistic needs of this community when we conduct our public outreach and participation activities.

Ecology will provide information in Spanish in our public comment notices and other places when appropriate. We strive to make our public participation efforts as inclusive as possible. Ecology will try to ensure that all community members have access to important documents.

Non-English speakers can call Ecology and ask for an interpreter so they can learn more about this site. Ecology will use Language Link, a phone-based interpretation service when needed. This service can be used for over 200 languages.

## **Public Participation Activities**

Members of the public may ask questions, submit informal comments, or share site information at any time. Interested parties do not need to wait for a formal public comment period to contact Ecology.

However, to be included in the formal site record, comments about the site investigation, cleanup alternatives, or cleanups must be submitted during formal comment periods. In addition, the

public is invited to review site documents before they become final. This is the most direct and influential way to learn more about the site and be involved in the cleanup's decision-making.

## **How we share information with the community**

During specific stages of the cleanup, Ecology will mail notices about public comment periods to addresses surrounding the site. The mailing list area will vary depending on the type of contamination and where it's located, but the list will at least include addresses within a 1/4-mile radius of the site and other interested organizations and individuals. These notices will provide general information about the site, contact information for submitting comments, and times and locations of public meetings or hearings or how to request one if not yet scheduled.

Ecology may also develop documents outside of comment periods to keep the community updated on the site's status. These informational documents will be available online and at document repositories. Print copies may be mailed to the nearby community if we feel the message warrants the associated cost and resources.

Comment period notices and other site announcements may also be posted in various locations throughout the community (for example, local businesses, schools, libraries).

### **Postal mailing list**

Ecology maintains a mailing list that includes addresses within a 1/4-mile radius of the site and relevant local, state, and federal government contacts. These people receive public comment notices when draft documents are available.

We will add additional individuals, organizations, and other interested parties to the mailing list as requested. If you would like to be added to the mailing list for this site, please contact Sheila Coughlan at 360-407-6255 or [Sheila.Coughlan@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Sheila.Coughlan@ecy.wa.gov).

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## Site Register

Public comment periods, events, and other cleanup notices are published in Ecology's [Site Register](#).<sup>4</sup> To receive the *Site Register* by email, please contact Cheryl Ann Bishop at 360-407-6848 or [cherylann.bishop@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:cherylann.bishop@ecy.wa.gov)<sup>5</sup>

## Newspaper display ads or legal notices

We announce public comment periods and events in ads or notices published in *The Daily News*. We will also publish notice on our [Public Input & Events Listing](#).<sup>6</sup>

## Email lists

Ecology maintains an email list to update interested persons about this site. If you would like to be added to the email list, please contact Sheila Coughlan at 360-407-6255 or [Sheila.Coughlan@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Sheila.Coughlan@ecy.wa.gov). We will share news about public comment periods, public meetings, and other cleanup-related information for the cleanup sites we manage in the area.

## Ecology's website and social media platforms

We maintain a website for the [Port of Longview TPH](#) site.<sup>7</sup> The website provides site information, and you may download cleanup documents.

We may also share information about cleanup sites through [news releases, our ECOconnect blog, and social media](#).<sup>8</sup>

## Document repositories

During public comment periods, you can find print documents at the following locations:

### Longview Public Library

1600 Louisiana St.  
Longview, WA 98632

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<sup>4</sup> [ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/Guidance-technical-assistance/Site-Register-lists-and-data](http://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/Guidance-technical-assistance/Site-Register-lists-and-data)

<sup>5</sup> <http://listserv.wa.gov/cgi-bin/wa?SUBED1=siteregister&A=1>

<sup>6</sup> [ecology.wa.gov/Events/Search/Listing](http://ecology.wa.gov/Events/Search/Listing)

<sup>7</sup> <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/gsp/Sitepage.aspx?csid=9152>

<sup>8</sup> [ecology.wa.gov/About-us/Get-to-know-us/News](http://ecology.wa.gov/About-us/Get-to-know-us/News)

**Washington Department of Ecology**

Southwest Regional Office  
300 Desmond Drive SW  
Lacey, WA 98503  
360-407-6300

To schedule an appointment, please Susie Baxter at 360-407-6365 or [Susie.Baxter@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Susie.Baxter@ecy.wa.gov).

**Signs around the cleanup site**

We may also install signs displaying information about project status, traffic impacts, and health risks around the cleanup site.

**How to share information with us**

At minimum, MTCA requires 30-day public comment periods for draft cleanup documents and 14-day comment periods SEPA documents. SEPA documents are often made available for review with other cleanup documents. We may hold comment periods longer than 30 days.

We may also identify public concerns and cleanup goals by meeting with and soliciting information from interested community members and organizations. To collaborate with us about this site, please contact Sheila Coughlan at 360-407-6255 or [Sheila.Coughlan@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Sheila.Coughlan@ecy.wa.gov).

**Public comment periods**

Formal 30-day comment periods allow interested members of the public to comment on draft documents, legal agreements, and proposed cleanup actions. If there is significant interest, Ecology may extend the public comment period. When Ecology oversees SEPA determinations, we hold comment periods for at least two weeks.

Following a comment period, we publish all the input we received and respond to significant comments and questions. If the comments result in significant changes to the cleanup documents, then the documents will be revised and re-issued for public review. If the comments do not result in significant changes, then they become final.



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## Public events

We hold public meetings, workshops, open houses, and public hearings based on community interest. If we have not scheduled a meeting, we will hold one if 10 people request it, and this may cause us to extend a public comment period so the meeting occurs during it.

Events are held at locations close to the site that meet Americans with Disabilities Act standards. Public meetings, workshops, open houses, and hearings are always announced in advance using a variety of methods.

## Plan Amendments

Ecology developed this plan following MTCA regulations (WAC 173-340-600). We review it as the cleanup progresses and amend it as necessary. You may suggest amendments to Sheila Coughlan at 360-407-6255 or [Sheila.Coughlan@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Sheila.Coughlan@ecy.wa.gov).

This plan includes information for the public regarding opportunities for public involvement and comment. The outreach activities discussed in this section reflect Ecology's current plans for keeping the public informed and providing ways for those interested in the site to communicate their concerns and questions to us.

If you feel the planned outreach activities and mechanisms described in this plan are insufficient, or should otherwise be modified, we will work to find solutions. New outreach activities or outreach tools established as a result can be implemented right away, with or without amending this plan.